Reviewer's report

Title: Interest in dietary pattern, individual-level social capital, and psychological distress: A cross-sectional study in a rural Japanese community

Version: 3 Date: 3 April 2013

Reviewer: Wesley Dean

Reviewer's report:

Dear Dr. Motohashi,

This paper is looking quite good. I have a small number of comments related to wording that could be addressed, but it is otherwise, in my mind, ready for publication.

Best,

Wesley Dean

Minor revisions:

On page three, think about rewriting the sentence that begins with "Furthermore, social capital..." It could read, "Furthermore, social capital could provide normative pressure to develop or maintain an interest in dietary pattern through pathways such as neighbor's social support."

Page 10: Add an "of". "... 95.3% of participants..."

I can't recall if Putnam's definition of social capital is referenced in Portes (ref 22). You should probably keep the Portes' citation, but it might be a good idea to provide a reference to Putnam as well if you use him in the text. Another person who uses a scale to measure social capital (collective efficacy) which may include similar items is Sansom. If you haven't read his work on community you may find it more relevant to your own interests than that of Putnam.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Acceptable

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.